

Submitter: Willie Levenson

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Natural
Resources

Measure: SB5521

The Boating Safety Advocates will help in the messaging of safety and sharing the waterways, throughout Oregon.

Transitioning the Portland Waterways Engagement Coordinator to a full time position will help build collaboration between diverse boating interests, including motorized boaters, towed wakesports participants and nonmotorized boaters. We believe this role is critical in reducing the need for further regulation. It is critical to support Marine Law Enforcement.

Larry Warren has made significant improvements to the culture of OSMB. OSMB staff are accessible problem solvers. Josh Mulhollem does an excellent job as well.

Portland is slowly but surely looking to the Willamette River as an asset. The tent is growing, there are more non motorized users in many forms from kayaks, canoes, SUP's to swimmers. The more users the more need for resources to manage this natural resource properly. This increased use is positive - people protect what they love.